Trading of electricity i.e., purchase of electricity for resale thereof, is a licensed activity under the provisions of the Act and licence to undertake trading is granted by the Appropriate Electricity Regulatory Commission. Concerned regulatory commission has powers under the Act to fix the trading margin, if considered necessary. Further, an Appropriate Commission has powers to issue such directions under Section 60 of the Act as it considers appropriate to a licensee or a generating company if such licensee or generating company enters into an agreement or abuses its dominant position or enters into a combination which is likely to cause or causes an adverse effect on competition of electricity industry. Non-compliance of the directions of the Commission is punishable under the Act.

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has issued draft regulation seeking to fix trading margin.

Amount granted for rural electrification in Assam

†3160. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount proposed to be granted to Assam for rural electrification during the year 2005-06 along with the percentage of subsidy to be provided;

(b) the amount released so far during the current financial year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Under "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY)", 90% capital subsidy would be provided for over all cost of the Project. The actual release of grant under this scheme would depend on sanction of projects as also execution of works under these projects.

(b) and (c) Assam Government has submitted 11 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) district-wise out of which one has been approved and ten are under process. The project sanctioned covers 350 un-electrified villages and 62,132 rural households out of which 44,548 are Below Poverty Line (BPL). First instalment of the funds is released on finalization of award of the contract. Assam is yet to finalize awarding of a contract.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.